Microbiologists and laboratory technicians of the Institute have been trained on sero-diagnosis at National Institute of mental health and Neuro Science, Bangalore.

The supply of IgM ELISA test kits for diagnosis of Chikungunya to the institute has been made through National Institute of Virology, Pune.

Establishment of a field station of National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune at Allapuzha is also proposed.

Treatment of infertility with Letrozole

1239. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that women in the country being treated for infertility with 'Letrozole' could be running the risk of damaging themselves and their babies;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has any mechanism in place to contain the use of the medicines meant for women and children which ignore the need for safety, side effects, etc.;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken to discourage the use of the above medicine; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Safety and efficacy of letrozole for its use in induction of ovulation in anovulatory infertility, has been evaluated and based on favourable safety and efficacy data, the drug has been approved for induction of ovulation in anovulatory infertility as per Drugs & Cosmetics Rules.

Business of spurious medicines in the country

†1240. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the claim made by the Indian Medical Association that the business of spurious and adulterated medicines has reached upto Rs. 7000 crores and its network has spread upto nine States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is going to take any concrete steps to check this highly serious crime;

(d) whether any steps have been taken as controlling measures in association with the State Governments in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.